CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1.　(Currently Amended)　A method for enabling at least one internal business process ~~that~~ of a first trading partner which uses a first data representation, ~~and that includes at least one activity that involves a trading partner to communicate with the trading partner through an interaction standard,~~ the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~a)~~ receiving a message ~~having the first data representation~~ from the internal business process of the first trading partner, the message having the first data representation; and

~~b)~~ automatically converting the message having the first data representation into a corresponding message having a ~~the~~ communication format specified by an ~~the~~ interaction standard for communication outside of the first trading partner to a second trading partner using the interaction standard.

2.　(Currently Amended)　The method of claim 1 further comprising ~~the step of~~:

~~c)~~ in the first trading partner, receiving a second message in the communication format from the second trading partner, the second message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard; and

~~d)~~ automatically converting the received message ~~having the communication format specified by the interaction standard~~ into a corresponding message having the first data representation.

3.　(Original)　The method of claim 1 wherein the interaction standard is one of a peer-to-peer (P2P) standard and a business-to-business (B2B) standard.

4.　(Previously Presented)　The method of claim 1 wherein the interaction standard is one of RosettaNet and the Common Business Library (CBL) business-to-business (B2B) interaction standards.

5.　(Original)　The method of claim 1 wherein the internal business process includes at least one workflow.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~act~~ step of automatically converting the message having the first data representation into a corresponding message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard includes:

retrieving a service definition;

retrieving a mark-up language document template; and

preparing a mark-up language message that is based on the mark-up language document template.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the act ~~step~~ of automatically converting the second ~~received~~ message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard into a corresponding message having the first data representation includes

retrieving at least one extensible-markup query language (XQL} query; and

executing the XQL query to extract the data from the reply.

8.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a) an internal business process of a first trading partner, the internal business process using ~~that uses~~ a first data representation;

b) an interaction standard that specifies a communication format for communication between the first trading partner ~~internal business process~~ and a second trading partner ~~at least one trading partner~~; and

c) a trading partner conversation manager of the first trading partner to manage ~~that manages~~ conversation between the internal business process and the second trading partner by performing format conversion between the first data representation and the interaction standard.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the trading partner conversation manager automatically converts messages having the first data representation into corresponding messages having the communication format specified by the interaction standard.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the trading partner conversation manager automatically converts messages having the communication format specified by the interaction standard into corresponding messages having the first data representation.

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11.   (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the trading partner conversation manager automatically maps a first message with the first data representation into a corresponding first message in the communication format, and automatically maps a second message in the communication format into a corresponding second message in the first data representation.

12.   (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the interaction standard is one of a peer-to-peer (P2P) standard and a business-to-business (B2B) standard.

13.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8 wherein the interaction standard is one of RosettaNet and the Common Business Library (CBL) business-to-business (B2B) interaction standards.

14.   (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the internal business process includes at least one workflow.

15-17 (Canceled)

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the act step of automatically converting the second received message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard into the corresponding message having the first data representation includes: the steps of

retrieving a service name and extensible-markup query language (XQL) queries;
parsing the request and extracting data;
starting the service and passing data;
obtaining service results;
retrieving an extensible markup language (XML) template;
preparing an XML response;
sending the XML message; and
returning control to a workflow server.

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19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the act ~~step~~ of automatically converting the message having the first data representation into the corresponding message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard includes:~~ the steps of~~

retrieving a service definition;

retrieving an extensible markup language (XML) template;

preparing an XML response; and

sending the XML message.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the act ~~step~~ of automatically converting the message having the first data representation into the corresponding message having the communication format specified by the interaction standard further includes:~~ the steps of~~

determining if a response is expected;

when a response is not expected, returning control to a workflow server;

when a response is expected, waiting for the response, retrieving a service name and extensible-markup query language (XQL) queries, parsing the response and extracting data, and returning control to the workflow server.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the interaction standard defines syntax for message exchanges and flow of interactions ~~among business processes~~.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 8 wherein the interaction standard defines syntax for message exchanges and flow of interactions ~~among business processes~~.

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